

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION**

<b>NATHAN TODD SHAFER,</b>	§	
<b>#39462-177,</b>	§	
<b>MOVANT,</b>	§	
	§	
<b>V.</b>	§	<b>CIVIL CASE No. 3:19-CV-1244-D-BK</b>
	§	
<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</b>	§	
<b>RESPONDENT.</b>	§	

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 636\(b\)](#) and *Special Order 3*, this action was referred to the United States Magistrate Judge for case management. As detailed here, Petitioner Nathan Todd Shafer’s *Emergency Motion for Order Directing Federal Bureau of Prisons to Show cause Why Movant Shafer is Being Unlawfully Imprisoned beyond His Statutory Release Date*, construed as a petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241, should be summarily **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** as premature.<sup>1</sup>

Relying on 28 U.S.C. § 2241, Shafer requests that the Bureau of Prisons (“BOP”) be directed to grant him good-time credits under the First Step Act of 2018, [Pub. L. No. 115-391](#), 132 Stat. 5194 (2018). [Doc. 3](#). He asserts that he is entitled to an additional seven days of good-time credits per year under the First Step Act and that, once those credits are applied, his sentence will have expired. [Doc. 3 at 1-2](#). Shafer avers that he is currently on home

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<sup>1</sup> Although Shafer did not submit a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the filing fee, it is more efficient to dismiss the petition than to require compliance with this Court’s filing requirements.

confinement as of part of a Residential Reentry Management program and that he is scheduled to release from his sentence on July 2, 2019.<sup>2</sup> [Doc. 3 at 1](#).

A habeas corpus petition under [28 U.S.C. § 2241](#) is subject to summary dismissal if it appears from the face of the petition that the petitioner is not entitled to relief. *See Wottlin v. Fleming*, 136 F.3d 1032, 1034 (5th Cir. 1998) (affirming summary dismissal of Section 2241 petition); *see also* Rule 4 and 1(b) of the RULES GOVERNING SECTION 2254 CASES.


Section 102(b)(1) of the First Step Act (“Act”), [Public Law No. 115-391](#), was amended by [18 U.S.C. § 3624\(b\)](#) to permit federal inmates to earn 54 days of good conduct time for each year of the sentence imposed, effectively abrogating *Barber v. Thomas*, 560 U.S. 474 (2010). However, this provision has not yet taken effect, and will not do so until the Attorney General completes the “risk and needs assessment system” within 210 days after the Act’s enactment, as provided by Section 101(a) of the Act. *See Schmutzler v. Quintana*, [No. 5:19-046-DCR, 2019 WL 727794, at \\*2 \(E.D. Ky Feb. 20, 2019\)](#) (denying habeas relief because Section 102(b)(1) will not take effect until July 2019); *Gossman v. Underwood*, [No. 3:19-CV-0351-G-BK, Civ. Doc. 6 \(N.D. Tex. Mar. 12, 2019\)](#), [R. & R. adopted, Civ. Doc. 8 \(N.D. Tex. Apr. 1, 2019\)](#) (same); *Christopher v. Wilson*, [No. 4:19-CV-214-O, 2019 WL 1745968, at \\*1-2 \(N.D. Tex. Apr. 18, 2019\)](#) (same).

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<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to [FED. R. EVID. 201](#), the Court takes judicial notice of Shafer’s computed release date of July 2, 2019. *See* BOP’s inmate locator, <https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/> (last accessed on May 24, 2019).

Therefore, even if Shafer's failure to exhaust administrative remedies were excused, his time-credit request is premature. Consequently, Shafer's *Emergency Motion for Order Directing Federal Bureau of Prisons to Show cause Why Movant Shafer is Being Unlawfully Imprisoned beyond His Statutory Release Date*, filed in his criminal case and construed here as a petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241, should be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** and the relief sought **DENIED**.

**SO RECOMMENDED** on May 24, 2019.



RENEE HARRIS TOLIVER  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE AND  
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL/OBJECT**

A copy of this report and recommendation will be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of this report and recommendation must file specific written objections within 14 days after being served with a copy. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); *FED. R. CIV. P. 72(b)*. An objection must identify the specific finding or recommendation to which objection is made, state the basis for the objection, and indicate the place in the magistrate judge's report and recommendation where the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Services Automobile Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996), *modified by statute on other grounds*, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (extending the time to file objections to 14 days).